

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1579

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, UR

SUBJ: US--USSR CONSULTATIONS ON PEACEKEEPING

REF: STATE 46729

1. SOVIET MISSION APRIL 29 RESPONDED TO MARCH 11 US INITIATIVE TO BREAK COMMITTEE OF 33 IMPASSE ON PEACEKEEPING GUIDELINES. IN GIVING AMB. SCHAUFELE MEMORANDUM, SMUN MINISTER OVINNIKOV REITERATED SERIOUS USSR INTEREST IN ACHIEVING AGREED GUIDELINES, BUT SAID US PAPER DID NOT ADDRESS KEY ISSUE--HOW TO ASSURE SC PERMANENT MEMBERS' EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS. HE ASKED IF US COULD PROVIDE CLARIFICATION ON THIS ISSUE.

2. COMMENT: OVINNIKOV IS OBVIOUSLY REFERRING TO INFORMAL PERMANENT MEMBER CONSENSUS IN DAY-TO-DAY PKO'S WHICH HAS BEEN SOVITE PREOCCUPATION. IT IS TRUE THAT DESPITE STRONG SOVIET REPRESENTATION TO US (SEE USUN 2565 9* 1973), US PAPER DOES NOT ADDRESS ITSELF TO THIS SUBJECT. WE THINK SOVIETS ARE JUSTIFIED IN ASKING FOR OUR THINKING ON THIS MATTER. SUGGEST DEPT CONSIDER RESPONDING TO
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SMUN WITH SOMETHING ALONG BRITISH "VETO BY CHALLENGE"

IDEA, WHICH MISSION AND DEPT HAVE AGREED HAS SUBSTANTIAL MERIT. (SOVIETS HAVE INDICATED TO US THAT THEY ARE INTERESTED IN BRITISH PROPOSAL.) WE HOPE DEPT WILL RESPOND PROMPTLY SINCE COMMITTEE OF 33 PRESSURE FOR ACTION WILL BUILD UP RAPIDLY ONCE SPECIAL SESSION IS OVER.

3. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF SOVIET MISSION MEMORANDUM:

QTE

HAVING ATTENTIVELY STUDIED THE WORKING PAPER OF THE UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UN OF MARCH 11, 1974 ON PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS THE USSR MISSION TO THE UN HAS THE HONOUR TO INFORM THE MISSION OF THE UNITED STATES OF THE FOLLOWING.

THE KEY ISSUE OF CARRYING OUT UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS, AS IS KNOWN TO BOTH THE AMERICAN AND THE SOVIET SIDES, IS THE QUESTION AS TO HOW THE POSSIBILITY FOR THE PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL WILL BE INSURED TO EXERCISE CONSTANT AND EFFECTIVE CONTROL REGARDING SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF CONDUCT OF UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS.

THE EXPERIENCE OF THE PAST SOVIET-AMERICAN BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ON UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS SHOWS THAT THIS ISSUE IS THE CENTRAL PROBLEM OF CARRYING OUT SUCH OPERATIONS. ANOTHER THING IS ALSO KNOWN, NAMELY: AT THAT TIME THE AMERICAN SIDE AGREED IN PRINCIPLE WITH THE NECESSITY FOR A POSITIVE SOLUTION OF THE ISSUE, ALTHOUGH NO FINAL UNDERSTANDING WAS THEN REACHED ON SPECIFIC FORMS AND DETAILS OF SUCH AN AGREEMENT.

THE WORKING PAPER OF THE USSR MISSION TRANSMITTED TO THE US MISSION IN SEPTEMBER, 1970 NOTED IN THIS CONNECTION THAT THE SOVIET SIDE TOOK NOTE OF THE UNDERSTANDING EXPRESSED THEN BY THE AMERICAN SIDE TO THE EFFECT THAT THE QUESTIONS OF CONDUCT OF UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS SHOULD NOT BE SOLVED WITHOUT AGREEMENT OF THE PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. WITH REFERENCE TO THE ABOVE-MENTIONED KEY ISSUE OF THE

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CONDUCT OF UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS THAT WORKING PAPER OF THE USSR MISSION NOTED AS FOLLOWS:

"REGRETFULLY, THE WORKING PAPER OF AMERICAN SIDE ON THIS KEY ISSUE DOES NOT CONTAIN PRACTICAL GUARANTEES TO THIS EFFECT AND THEREFORE AS A WHOLE IS NOT ACCEPTABLE AS A BASIS OF AGREEMENT. THE SOVIET SIDE EXPECTS THAT THE AMERICAN SIDE WOULD COME FORWARD WITH MORE DETAILED AND SPECIFIC

FORMULATIONS ON THE BASIC ISSUES UNDER DISCUSSION WHICH WOULD CORRESPOND TO THE UN CHARTER AND INSURE THAT THE ABOVE PRINCIPLE WOULD BE INDEED IMPLEMENTED WITH REGARD TO FUTURE OPERATIONS".

UNFORTUNATELY, UNTIL NOW THE AMERICAN SIDE DID NOT GIVE ITS REPLY TO THOSE CONSIDERATIONS OF THE SOVIET SIDE. THE WORKING PAPER OF THE MISSION OF THE UNITED STATES OF MARCH II, 1974 DID NOT MAKE A STEP FORWARD AS THE SOVIET SIDE EXPECTED. MOREOVER, THAT ISSUE HAS BEEN COMPLETELY BYPASSED.

ATTACHING SERIOUS SIGNIFICANCE TO THE BILATERAL SOVIET-AMERICAN CONSULTATIONS ON THE MATTERS OF CONDUCTING UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS AND BELIEVING THAT THE AMERICAN SIDE ATTACHES TO THESE ISSUES EQUALLY SERIOUS SIGNIFICANCE THE USSR MISSION EXPECTS THAT THE US MISSION WOULD INTRODUCE DUE CLARIFICATIONS ON THE SAID KEY QUESTION WHICH HAS ARISEN OVER THREE YEARS AGO AND TO WHICH THE AMERICAN SIDE HAS NOT UNTIL NOW GIVEN A DEFINITE ANSWER. TO MAKE THE QUESTION EXPLICITLY CLEAR THE USSR MISSION CONSIDERS IT NECESSARY TO RESTATE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE MATTER NAMELY: HOW THE POSSIBILITY FOR THE PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL WILL BE INSURED TO EXERCISE CONSTANT AND EFFECTIVE CONTROL REGARDING SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE CONDUCT OF UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS. UNQTE
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